

We Claim:

1. A method of accessing data at a wireless terminal having virtual memory, said method comprising the steps of:

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(a) downloading data from a server over an active wireless link to the virtual memory of the wireless terminal; and

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(b) accessing the data stored in the virtual memory of the wireless terminal at the wireless terminal without requiring the active wireless link.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein step (b) comprises viewing some or all of the data stored in the virtual memory of the wireless terminal at the wireless terminal without requiring the active wireless link.

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3. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of modifying some or all of the data stored in the virtual memory of the wireless terminal at the wireless terminal without requiring the active wireless link.

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4. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of deleting some or all of the data stored in the virtual memory of the wireless terminal at the wireless terminal without requiring the active wireless link.

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5. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of adding data to the virtual memory of the wireless terminal at the wireless terminal without requiring the active wireless link.

6. A method according to claim 1 further comprising,
immediately after step (a) and before step (b), the step of
tearing down the active wireless link.

5 7. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step
of modifying some of all of the data stored in the virtual
memory of the wireless terminal over the active wireless link.

8. A method according to claim 7 further comprising the step
10 of modifying corresponding data stored in mirror memory on the
server.

9. A method according to claim 7 wherein the data is modified
by the server.

15 10. A method according to claim 8 wherein the data is modified
at the wireless terminal.

11. A method according to claim 8 wherein the data is modified
20 by the server.

12. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step
of deleting some of all of the data stored in the virtual
memory of the wireless terminal over the active wireless link.

25 13. A method according to claim 12 further comprising the step
of deleting corresponding data stored in mirror memory on the
server.

30 14. A method according to claim 12 wherein the data is deleted
by the server.

15. A method according to claim 13 wherein the data is deleted at the wireless terminal.

16. A method according to claim 13 wherein the data is deleted by the server.

17. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of adding data to the virtual memory of the wireless terminal over the active wireless link.

18. A method according to claim 17 further comprising the step of adding corresponding data stored in mirror memory on the server.

19. A method according to claim 17 wherein the data is added by the server.

20. A method according to claim 18 wherein the data is added at the wireless terminal.

21. A method according to claim 18 wherein the data is added by the server.

22. A wireless terminal for use in a communications network, said wireless terminal comprising:

(a) a transceiver for receiving and transmitting information over an active wireless link with the communications network;

(b) virtual memory to store information received over the active wireless link with the communications network;

and,

(c) display means to view the information stored in the virtual memory without requiring the active wireless link with the communications network.

23. A wireless terminal according to claim 22 further comprising modification means for modifying the data stored in the virtual memory without requiring the wireless link with the communications network.

24. A wireless terminal according to claim 22 further comprising deletion means for deleting data stored in the wireless terminal without requiring the wireless link with the communications network.

25. A wireless terminal according to claim 22 further comprising addition means for adding data to the virtual memory without requiring the wireless link with the communications network.

26. A wireless communications network comprising:

at least one display based wireless handset with virtual memory;

at least one base station with which the wireless handset communicates over an active wireless link;

a central switching controller coupled to the base station for controlling the base station and connectable to an external switched telephone network for selective switching of the wireless handset to the external switched network; and

a server connected to the central switching controller and controlling operation of the central switching

controller by means of server software running on the server
and providing at least one software application to the wireless
handset by means of application software and related data
located on the server;

5 wherein server software permits data related to an
application to be downloaded over the active wireless link to
the virtual memory of the display based wireless handset;

 and wherein the data stored in the virtual memory of
the wireless handset can be accessed without the active

10 wireless link.

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